

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 1 as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for tracking costs incurred by an entity comprising a plurality of groups, the method comprising:

receiving billing information associated with consumption of computer-related hardware processing resources from a provider, the billing information including a plurality of computer-related hardware processing jobs executed by the provider for the entity and a corresponding plurality of unique identifiers;

reading a business model file comprising at least one business dimension within the entity, the at least one business dimension including:

organizational information including a list of a plurality of groups within the entity, and

application profile information including ~~associations of identity~~  
information identifying each of one or more computer-related hardware processing tasks with one of the groups in the plurality of groups within the entity which had the computer-related hardware processing task performed by the provider that utilize one or more of the plurality of computer-related hardware processing jobs executed by the provider to each group and to one or more of the unique identifiers; and

allocating the billing information by the at least one business dimension including ~~matching~~ associating each of the plurality of unique identifiers to one of the groups in the

plurality of groups within the entity which had one or more of the computer related hardware processing tasks performed by ~~each group~~ the provider;

wherein the foregoing steps are executed by at least one computer processing unit.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the at least one business dimension further comprises at least one of a business process and an associated business performance metric.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the allocating step further comprises determining a total cost incurred by at least one of the plurality of groups.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the reading step further comprises:

determining an internal structure of the entity, including the plurality of groups within the entity;

determining a billing detail of the plurality of groups within the entity;

determining a value driver of the entity; and

determining an application profile of the entity.